COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

(Page 1)

| As a | below named inventor, I | hereby declare that: | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Му | residence, post office add | lress and citizenship are as stat | ed below next to my name; |
| · I bel | ieve I am the original, f | irst and sole inventor (if only | one name is listed below) or an |
| original, first | and joint inventor (if p | olural names are listed below) | of the subject matter which is |
| claimed and | for which a patent is sou | ght on the invention entitled | |
| IMAGE | PROCESSING METH | OD AND APPARATUS, A | AND STORAGE MEDIUM |
| the specifica | tion of which [X]is attach | ned hereto. [] was filed on | |
| as United Sta | ates Application No. or P | CT International Application N | o |
| and was ame | nded on | (if applicable). | |
| | | | contents of the above-identified |
| specification | , including the claims, as | s amended by any amendment | referred to above. |
| I acl | knowledge the duty to dis | sclose information which is ma | terial to patentability as defined |
| in 37 CFR § | 1.56. | | |
| I he | reby claim foreign prior | ity benefits under 35 U.S.C. | §119(a)-(d) or §365(b), of any |
| foreign appli | ication(s) for patent or | inventor's certificate, or §36 | 55(a) of any PCT international |
| application v | which designates at leas | st one country other than the | United States, listed below and |
| have also ic | dentified below any for | eign application for patent or | r inventor's certificate, or PCT |
| international | application having a fi | iling date before that of the | application on which priority is |
| claimed: | | | |
| | | | (Yes/No) |
| Country | Application No. | Filed (Day/Mo./Yr.) | Priority Claimed |
| JAPAN | 11-084660 | 26/03/1999 | Yes |
| I her | reby appoint the practitio | ners associated with the firm a | nd customer number provided |
| | | | e Patent and Trademark Office |
| _ | | | d to the address associated with |
| that Custome | | | |

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO **Customer Number: 05514**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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